

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Wittenberg

25X1 EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

25X1 DATE OF CONTENT

25X1 DATE OBTAINED E PREPARED 22 December 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 3 December 1953, the Beseler Kaserne, Wittenberg, was occupied by about 1,200 troops. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia.

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2. On 3 December, the Tauntzien Kaserne was occupied. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets. Between 25 November and 3 December, about 40 to 50 troops carrying baggage daily left toward Jueterbog aboard regular passenger trains. About the same number of troops arrived from the direction of Jueterbog.

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3. On 25 November, about 150 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets were detrained at the freight station and subsequently left for the Flak Kaserne. On 17 November, a similar column was seen arriving at, and leaving from, the Flak Kaserne. Trucks were seen en route to and from the installation.

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4. At about 6 a.m. on 13 November, 3 JS-3 tanks were detrained in Wittenberg. SU-249 gun was seen en route toward Dessau.

5. On 24 November, the Beseler Kaserne was occupied by about 650 to 700 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia. On 14, 17 and 20 November each, 3 to 4 trucks occupied with troops left the installation toward Teuchel. On 16 November, about 20 T-34/85 tanks left the installation toward Teuchel for driving practice. On 18 November, about 550 to 600 troops were inspected by 4 senior officers in the barracks yard.

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SECRET

- 2 -

[REDACTED]

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6. On 24 November, the Flak Kaserne was occupied by about 1,000 to 1,200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia.

[REDACTED]

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Comment.

It is noted that, although the bulk of the 6th Gds Tank Div is believed to have returned to the post after summer training, the two most occupied installations, i.e. the Beseler and the Flak Kasernes, which have a capacity of about 3,000 troops each, have been reported occupied each by about 1,000 troops since October [REDACTED]. The underestimation may have resulted from the little training conducted in these months. The information fails to definitely confirm at the post the bulk of the division. [REDACTED]

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